



SR0233

LRB099 11495 GRL 32630 r

1

SENATE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The State of Illinois is committed to protecting  
3 the safety of motorists on its roads and highways and to  
4 protecting taxpayers' investment in our highway  
5 infrastructure; and

6           WHEREAS, Truck crashes are a serious, deadly, and costly  
7 problem to Illinois families, our State's health care system,  
8 and the economy; and

9           WHEREAS, In 2013, there were 10,397 crashes involving  
10 tractor-trailers in Illinois; fatalities resulting from  
11 tractor-trailer crashes increased by 13% from 2012 to 2013, and  
12 the number of fatal crashes involving tractor-trailers also  
13 increased by 16%; and

14           WHEREAS, From 2009 to 2013, there were 586 fatalities  
15 resulting from crashes involving large trucks; and

16           WHEREAS, Annual truck crash fatalities nationwide are  
17 equivalent to a major airplane crash every other week of the  
18 year; and

19           WHEREAS, In fatal 2-vehicle crashes between a large truck  
20 and a passenger motor vehicle, 96% of the fatalities were

1 occupants of the passenger vehicle; and

2 WHEREAS, Driving a truck is one of the most dangerous  
3 occupations in the United States; and

4 WHEREAS, An April 2014 survey found that 73% of Illinois  
5 residents oppose increasing the current federal truck weight  
6 limit of 80,000 pounds to 97,000 pounds; and

7 WHEREAS, Increases to truck size and weight limits would  
8 have a tremendous impact on Illinois' infrastructure; Illinois  
9 has the third largest interstate system in the United States  
10 and the third largest bridge inventory in the United States,  
11 and more than 7,200 trucking establishments within Illinois use  
12 the extensive network of highways; and

13 WHEREAS, At present, nearly 16% of the bridges in Illinois  
14 are structurally deficient or functionally obsolete and 15% of  
15 the major roads are considered to be in poor condition;  
16 increasing the weight of a heavy truck by only 10% increases  
17 bridge damage by 33%; and

18 WHEREAS, Driving on roads in need of repair costs Illinois  
19 motorists \$3.7 billion a year in extra vehicle repairs and  
20 operating costs, which amounts to nearly \$450 per motorist;  
21 therefore, be it

1           RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL  
2 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we oppose an increase  
3 in current truck size and weight limits on all roads in the  
4 State of Illinois in order to ensure the safety of all Illinois  
5 motorists on our streets and highways; and be it further

6           RESOLVED, That we affirm our opposition to removing or  
7 weakening the federal freeze on Longer Combination Vehicles  
8 contained in the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency  
9 Act of 1991, which restricts the use of extra-long double and  
10 triple trailers trucks on Illinois highways because of the  
11 adverse impact on highway safety and infrastructure; and be it  
12 further

13           RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be  
14 delivered to the President and Vice President of the United  
15 States, the Speaker of the United States House of  
16 Representatives, the Majority Leader of the United States  
17 Senate, and the members of the Illinois congressional  
18 delegation.